



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2019/2020 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS

ECO 300: RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: 5/12/2019

TIME: 2.00-4.00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS:

- (i) Answer question one (Compulsory) and any other two questions**
- (ii) Do not write on the question paper**
- (iii) Show your working clearly**

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

- a) Differentiate between unit of analysis and units of observations (4 marks)
- b) Briefly explain the Relationship between a research problem, research objectives and the literature review (5 marks)
- c) Explain different types of variables using appropriate examples under precision and measurement (4 marks)
- d) Explain the relationship between research designs, sampling and data collection methods/instruments (5 marks)
- e) Explain five main factors that influence the response rate (5 marks)
- f) Explain five methods of primary data collection (5 marks)
- g) Explain sources of literature review. Give examples (2 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain two Sources of Knowledge apart from research (2 marks)
- b) Explain four types of research as classified by Patton (2002) (4 marks)
- c) Explain five main research designs (5 marks)
- d) Explain any five characteristics of a good problem statement (5 marks)
- e) While giving examples, discuss the two reasons for conducting pilot study (4 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) In any research, the findings have a particular significance. Describe three stakeholders and indicate how useful will the results of a study be for different stakeholders (6 marks)
- b) Discuss any two referencing methods within the text (4 marks)
- c) Using a well labeled diagram, show the steps used in conducting research and explain the main highlights of the first three chapters of a research proposal (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Discuss the importance of conducting a review of the literature in the research process (10 marks)
- b) Questionnaire is a set of standard questions (question schedule) and these questions are asked systematically (structured) or some leeway (semi structured). Discuss common rules of constructing a good questionnaire? (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

You have been tasked to conduct research on a topic of current concern/interest in your field of study (e.g., Business, Economics, Education, etc.). Using your knowledge and understanding of research methods and methodology,

- a) Frame an appropriate topic for your research (2 marks)
- b) Illustrate your conceptual framework (indicating independent and dependent variables) using a well drawn diagram (6 marks)
- c) Develop three specific objectives for your study (6 marks)
- d) Discuss any two research designs that you would use for your research (6 marks)